

ΙΩΑΝΝΟΥ Γ΄

Ancient Letters in comparison to Third John

Praescriptio:

1 Ὁ πρεσβύτερος Γαῖω τῷ ἀγαπητῷ, ὃν ἐγὼ ἀγαπῶ ἐν ἀληθείᾳ.

Proem:

2 Ἀγαπητέ, περὶ πάντων εὐχομαί σε εὐοδοῦσθαι καὶ ὑγιαίνειν, καθὼς εὐοδοῦταί σου ἡ ψυχὴ. 3 Ἐχάρην γὰρ λίαν ἐρχομένων ἀδελφῶν καὶ μαρτυρούντων σου τῇ ἀληθείᾳ, καθὼς σὺ ἐν ἀληθείᾳ περιπατεῖς. 4 μειζότεραν τούτων οὐκ ἔχω χαράν, ἵνα ἀκούω τὰ ἐμὰ τέκνα ἐν ἀληθείᾳ περιπατοῦντα.

Body:

1 5 Ἀγαπητέ, πιστὸν ποιεῖς ὃ ἐὰν ἐργάσῃ εἰς τοὺς ἀδελφούς καὶ τοῦτο ξένους, 6 οἱ ἐμαρτύρησάν σου τῇ ἀγάπῃ ἐνώπιον ἐκκλησίας, οὓς καλῶς ποιήσεις προπέμψας ἀξίως τοῦ θεοῦ· 7 ὑπὲρ γὰρ τοῦ ὀνόματος ἐξήλθον μηδὲν λαμβάνοντες ἀπὸ τῶν ἐθνικῶν. 8 ἡμεῖς οὖν ὀφείλομεν ὑπολαμβάνειν τοὺς τοιούτους, ἵνα συνεργοὶ γινώμεθα τῇ ἀληθείᾳ.

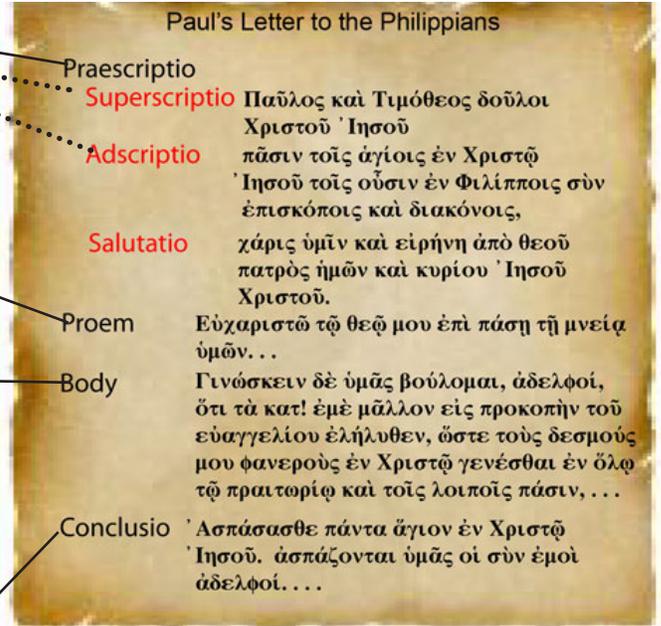
2 9 Ἐγραψά τι τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ· ἀλλ' ὁ φιλοπρωτεύων αὐτῶν Διοτρέφης οὐκ ἐπιδέχεται ἡμᾶς. 10 διὰ τοῦτο, ἐὰν ἔλθω, ὑπομνήσω αὐτοῦ τὰ ἔργα ἃ ποιεῖ λόγοις πονηροῦς φλυαρῶν ἡμᾶς, καὶ μὴ ἀρκούμενος ἐπὶ τούτοις οὔτε αὐτὸς ἐπιδέχεται τοὺς ἀδελφούς καὶ τοὺς βουλομένους κωλύει καὶ ἐκ τῆς ἐκκλησίας ἐκβάλλει.

3 11 Ἀγαπητέ, μὴ μιμοῦ τὸ κακὸν ἀλλὰ τὸ ἀγαθόν. ὁ ἀγαθοποιῶν ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστίν· ὁ κακοποιῶν οὐχ ἑώρακεν τὸν θεόν. 12 Δημητρίῳ μεμαρτύρηται ὑπὸ πάντων καὶ ὑπὸ αὐτῆς τῆς ἀληθείας· καὶ ἡμεῖς δὲ μαρτυροῦμεν, καὶ οἶδας ὅτι ἡ μαρτυρία ἡμῶν ἀληθὴς ἐστίν.

Conclusio

13 Πολλὰ εἶχον γράψαι σοι ἀλλ' οὐ θέλω διὰ μέλαρος καὶ καλάμου σοι γράφειν· 14 ἐλπίζω δὲ εὐθέως σε ἰδεῖν, καὶ στόμα πρὸς στόμα ἀλάησομεν.

15 Εἰρήνη σοι. ἀσπάζονται σε οἱ φίλοι. ἀσπάζου τοὺς φίλους κατ' ὄνομα.



Ancient Letter on papyrus
The Third Letter of John

1 The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.
2 Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul. 3 I was overjoyed when some of the friends arrived and testified to your faithfulness to the truth, namely how you walk in the truth. 4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

5 Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the friends, I even though they are strangers to you; 6 they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God; 7 for they began their journey for the sake of Christ, accepting no support from non-believers. 8 Therefore we ought to support such people, so that we may become co-workers with the truth.

9 I have written something to the church; but Diotrophes, who likes to put himself first, does not acknowledge our authority. 10 So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing in spreading false charges against us. And not content with those charges, he refuses to welcome the friends, and even prevents those who want to do so and expels them from the church.

11 Beloved, do not imitate what is evil but imitate what is good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God. 12 Everyone has testified favorably about Demetrius, and so has the truth itself. We also testify for him, and you know that our testimony is true.

13 I have much to write to you, but I would rather not write with pen and ink; 14 instead I hope to see you soon, and we will talk together face to face.

15 Peace to you. The friends send you their greetings. Greet the friends there, each by name.

Conclusio elements:

Greetings

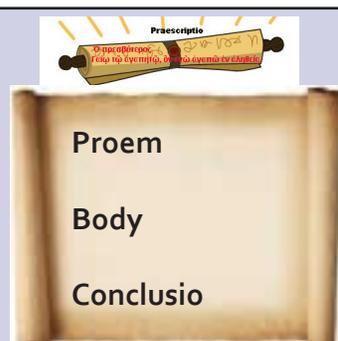
Travel Plans

Sender Verification

Prayer requests

Doxologies

Benedictio



3.1.3.3 Block Diagramming of Pericopes

Block diagramming is the schematizing of the sentences of the text in order to create a visual presentation of primary and secondary ideas.¹ In this paragraph such a diagram would be as follows:

- Beloved
- 1** ^{v.2} **I pray**
that all may go well
with you
and
that you may be
in good health
just as it is well
with your soul.
- 2** ^{v.3} **I was overjoyed**
when some of the friends arrived,
and
----- testified to your faithfulness to the truth
namely
how you walk in the truth.
- 3** ^{v. 3} **I have no greater joy**
than this
to hear
that my children are walking in the truth.
- =====

- ² Ἀγαπητέ,
περὶ πάντων
1 εὐχομαί
σε εὐδοῦσθαι
καὶ
ὑγιαίνειν,
καθὼς εὐδοῦταί σου ἡ ψυχή.
- ³ γὰρ
2 ἐχάρην λίαν
ἐρχομένων ἀδελφῶν
καὶ
μαρτυρούντων σου τῇ ἀληθείᾳ,
καθὼς σὺ ἐν ἀληθείᾳ περιπατεῖς.
- 3** ⁴ μειζοτέραν...οὐκ ἔχω χαράν,
τούτων
ἵνα ἀκούω
τὰ ἐμὰ τέκνα ἐν ἀληθείᾳ περιπατοῦντα.

Note the key issues in review by answering the following questions;

- 1) How many 'main' ideas are in this paragraph?
- 2) What are the two things in the content of the elder's prayer for Gaius?
- 3) How did the elder come to be overjoyed? Name the two aspects of the 'when' clause.
- 4) Why did the elder structure statement #3 in an inclusive way rather than just referring to Gaius?
- 5) Explain the nature of 'truth' as defined here in this paragraph.
- 6) List some possible teaching and preaching points from this paragraph.

¹For detailed instructions on doing this procedure see "Steps to a Literary Structural Analysis of the Greek Text," at cranfordville.com: <http://cranfordville.com/gkgrma05.pdf>.